Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CPR-01 SCA-01 SS-15 SP-02 SCS-03

INR-07 VO-03 /046 W

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R 251215Z MAY 76 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6171 INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

CONFIDENTIAL NEW DELHI 7715

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: CGEN

SUBJ: INDIAN CONSULATE IN CHICAGO, CONGEN CALCUTTA, AND CONSULAR CONVENTION WITH INDIA

REF: STATE 126435

1. EMBASSY AGREES THAT THE TIME MAY BE RIPE TO PROPOSE NEGOTIATION OF A CONSULAR CONVENTION TO GOI. WE ASSUME THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO ARRANGE AND COMPLETE, AND ARE FAIRLY SURE IT WOULD TAKE GOI AN EXTENDED LENGTH OF TIME THEREAFTER TO RATIFY ANY AGREED CONVENTION. (SOVIET AND CZECH CONSULAR CONVENTIONS CONCLUDED AND SIGNED IN THE LAST THREE YEARS ARE STILL AWAITING RATIFICATION.) THE INFIAN PROBLEM APPEARS TO RELATE TO PROBLEMS OF ADJUSTMENT IN COMESTIC LEGISLATION TO ACCOMODATE TERMS OF CONSULAR CONVENTIONS, AND THE FLUIDITY OF THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT SINCE THE EMERGENCY APPEARS TO HAVE PUT THE QUESTION OF TAKING SUCH ACTION ON ICE.

2. NEVERTHELESS NEGOTIATIONS ON A CONVENTION WOULD INDEED ENABLE US TO SURFACE AND DISCUSS A NUMBER OF US CONCERNS AND TO WORK TOWARD AT LEAST DE FACTO UNDERSTANDINGS ON CONSULAR PRACTICE WITH GOI. WE WILL LOOK CONFIDENTIAL

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FORWARD TO RECEIVING NEA/INS MEMORANDUM ON THE CONSULAR

DISTRICT/CONSULAR CONVENTION PROBLEMS REFERRED TO IN REFTEL. IT IS SOMEWHAT UNCLEAR TO US HOW WE COULD DELAY ON INDIAN REQUEST FOR CONGEN CHICAGO UNTIL CONSULAR DISTRICT PROBLEM WAS THRASHED OUT IN COURSE OF CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS. AND WE MAY THEREFORE FIND IT USEFUL TO DEAL WITH CONSULAR DISTRICT AND CONSULAR CONVENTION PROBLEMS SEPARATELY. WE WILL, HOWEVER, DEFER FURTHER COMMENT ON THIS UNTIL WE SEE INS VIEWS.

3. MEA SENT OVER ROUTINE DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO EMBASSY LAST WEEK REQUESTING VISA FOR ONE PERMA NAND AS MEMBER OF STAFF OF "CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA, CHICAGO". AN OFFICIAL A-2 VISA WAS ROUTINELY ISSUED BY CONSULAR SECTION MAY 21. EMBASSY HAS ENSURED THAT NO FURTHER ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON ANY REQUESTS FOR VISAS FOR INDIAN PERSONNEL GOING TO CHICAGO PENDING CLARIFICATION OF THE WHOLE ISSUE. SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 25 MAY 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NFWDF07715

Document Number: 1976NEWDE07715
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: D760203-0885

From: NEW DELHI Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760516/aaaaanzr.tel Line Count: 78

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION NEA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 STATE 126435 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: saccheem

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 26 JUL 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by saccheem>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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TAGS: CGEN To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006